1   CLAIMS

2

3   1. A method of downloading data to a computing device comprising steps of:

4   segmenting a data file into a plurality of portions, said data file being available on a

5   content source;

6   independently downloading each of said plurality of portions to a computing device,

7   wherein each of said plurality of portions are configured to be combined into a single data file on

8   said computing device.

9

10   2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least some of said plurality of portions

11   are approximately equal to 1Mb in size.

12

13   3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least two portions of said plurality of

14   portions have the same size.

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16   4. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising steps of:

17   creating a second data file in the computing device having size substantially equal to

18   the size of said first data file before the step of independently downloading; and

19   storing said plurality of portions in the second data file.

20

21   5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said step of independently downloading

22   comprises a step of downloading a first predetermined number of bytes of said first data file

23   starting from a first positioned byte of said first data file.

24

25   6. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said step of independently downloading

26   further comprising a step of downloading a second predetermined number of bytes of said first

27   data file starting from a second positioned byte of said first data file, said second positioned byte

28   being positioned from said first positioned byte by approximately said first predetermined

29   number of bytes.

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1   7. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a step of downloading at least

2 two of said plurality of portions by simultaneous threads.

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4   8. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein four or more of said plurality of portions

5 are downloaded by simultaneous threads.

6

7   9. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said step of downloading further

8 comprises a step of establishing another simultaneous thread with said computing device for

9 independently downloading another portion of said plurality of portions, if a data transfer speed

10 for any of the currently active threads is approximately greater than or equal to 20 Kb/s.

11

12   10. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said step of downloading further

13 comprises a step of establishing another simultaneous thread with said computing device for

14 independently downloading another portion of said plurality of portions, if the number of

15 currently active threads is less than a predetermined threshold.

16

17   11. A server connectable to a plurality of computing devices through a network, said

18 server being operable to receive a selection of a data file over said network from a computing

19 device, segment said selected data file into a plurality of portions and independently download

20 each of said plurality of portions to said computing device.

21

22   12. The server of claim 11, wherein said server is further operable to download at least

23 two of said plurality of portions to said computing device by simultaneous threads.

24

25   13. The server of claim 12, wherein at least four of said plurality of portions are

26 downloaded by simultaneous threads.

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28   14. The server of claim 12, wherein said server is operable to download another portion

29 of said plurality of portions by another simultaneous thread if a data transfer speed for any

30 current active threads is approximately greater than or equal to 20kb/s.

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1   15. The server of claim 12, wherein said server is operable to download another portion

2   of said plurality of portions by another simultaneous thread if the number of currently active

3   threads is less than a predetermined threshold.

4

5   16. A method of printing a data file stored on a remote content source comprising steps

6   of:

7   receiving a data stream including a data file from a remote content source through a

8   network;

9   storing a first portion of said data file received in said stream;

10   transmitting said first portion of said data file to a printer for printing; and

11   storing a second portion of said data file received in said stream while said first

12   portion is printing.

13

14   17. The method of claim 16, further comprising steps of:

15   determining whether said first portion has completed printing;

16   transmitting said second portion to said printer in response to said first portion having

17   completed printing; and

18   determining whether said second portion is completely received in response to said

19   first portion not being completely printed.

20

21   18. The method of claim 16 further comprising a step of adjusting a size of said second

22   portion.

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24   19. The method of claim 18, wherein said step of adjusting further comprises steps of:

25   determining a data transfer rate over said network between said remote content source

26   and a computing device performing said steps of claim 16; and

27   adjusting said size depending on the data transfer rate.

28

29   20. The method of claim 19, wherein said size of said second portion is adjusted to be

30   greater than said size of said first portion if said data transfer rate is greater than a predetermined

1   threshold, and said size of said second portion is adjusted to be less than said size of said first

2   portion if said data transfer rate is less than a predetermined threshold.

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